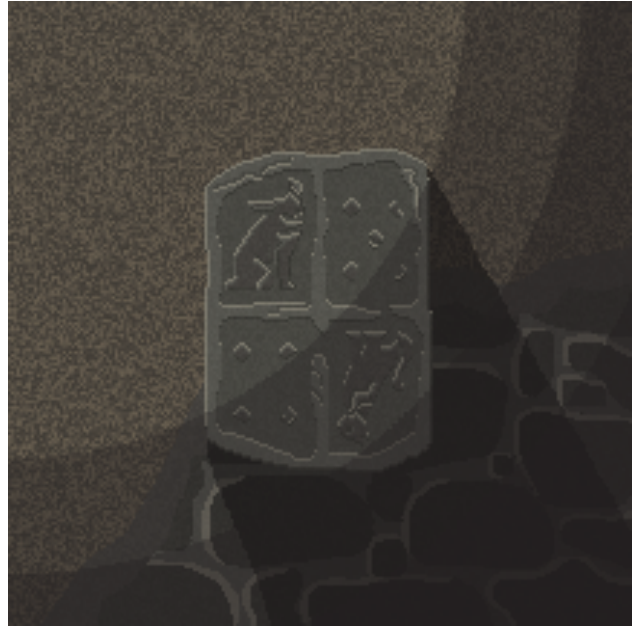


My work explores the multifaceted relationship between humankind and time; despite the inescapable nature of death, an individual or group can transcend those limitations by making an impact on the world around them. Few places are greater proof of this fact than Florence, Italy, where the efforts of long-dead families have been immortalized in art and architecture.



"Legacy" is a short video that combines sound design and animated pixel art. The video travels through several environments, and each one features a different iteration of the same family crest. This crest was designed with elements symbolic to my family and hometown, but the composition was inspired by the crests of the Medici and other European families. So too were the locations of each crest; in Florence, the Medici crest is present everywhere, from churches and *palazzos* to ceramic kitchenware.

In the video, the crests are shown in various states of decay, emphasizing both the mortality of any family and the scope of their influence. The colors and textures used to illustrate the crests mirror the materials that were used during the Italian Renaissance, as well as the tendencies of powerful families to spread their patronage across disciplines.



The Medici are still well-known, and for good reason; their contributions to Florence and other Italian cities often feature their name or coat of arms. But everyone makes history in a way, whether their names end up in history books or not. Regardless of a family's size or political power—or anyone's power, for that matter—their mere presence is guaranteed to influence the world around them, and that influence may be felt centuries after that family has faded away.

The same sentiment can be extended to the viewer, since all families consist of significant individuals. An individual who influences their surroundings achieves immortality: for their own name, the name of their family or community. Yet sometimes the consequences of one's actions are all that live on after the individual has fallen into obscurity.

